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the date of resignation or the date when the resignation was received by the President of the Local Board or the date of confirmation of the communication was urged should be taken into consideration?"

Mr. E. CONRAN SMITH:—"The instructions issued by the Government are only executive instructions. They do not relate to the question raised by the hon. Member, which is a matter for the courts."

Mr. P. V. KRISHNAYYA CHOUDARI:—"When there is a specific Government Order issued by the Government in 1931 that, when a member denies having sent in his resignation, it must not be given effect to, may I know the reason why the Taluk Board President did not give effect to that Government Order?"

Mr. E. CONRAN SMITH:—"The question should be addressed to the Taluk Board President."

Appointment of the President, District Board, Kistna, as Special Officer for the conduct of elections to the panchayats in the district.

* 510 *Q.*—Mr. P. V. KRISHNAYYA CHOUDARI: Will the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether it is a fact that the President, District Board, Kistna, was appointed special officer to conduct elections to the panchayats in his district till a district panchayat officer was appointed in due course;

(*b*) whether it is also a fact that the order appointing him as special officer was subsequently cancelled;

(*c*) who originally suggested the appointment, the Government or the Inspector of Local Boards and Municipalities; and

(*d*) on whose suggestion was the order cancelled and what the reasons are for the same?

A.—(*a*) The President, District Board, Kistna, was appointed Election Officer in connexion with the conduct of elections to panchayats in the district.

(*b*) Yes.

(*c*) The Inspector of Municipal Councils as Election authority made the appointment.

(*d*) At the instance of Government. The appointment was contrary to the scheme and spirit of the Madras Local Boards Act, 1920.

Medical Administration

Leave allowances of medical officers compelled to go on leave preparatory to retirement.

* 511 *Q.*—Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR: Will the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether in their Order No. 712, P.H., dated 24th March 1932, the Government compelled any medical officers to go on leave preliminary to retirements and, if so, their names, the date from which their

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leave began and the emoluments they drew from that date up to their date of retirement, respectively;

(b) whether the order referred to above was subsequently cancelled in G.O. No. 1078, P.H., dated 18th May 1933, and if so, why; and

(c) whether the medical officers who were compelled to go on leave by the earlier order and who, during the whole or part of the period of their leave, drew less than their normal pay were paid the difference between their leave pay and their normal pay and, if not, why not?

A.—(a) The four assistant surgeons retired under the Government Order applied for leave on receipt of the notice of retirement and they were granted the leave admissible to them. The required information is furnished in the appended statement.[a]

(b) Yes; as it was not possible to reduce the strength of the service in time as anticipated and as the order of retrenchment of personnel was also subsequently modified.

(c) The period during which the assistant surgeons were on leave on half average pay was treated as leave on full average pay and arrears of pay were disbursed to them. The Government do not consider it necessary to grant more.

Mr. Abdul Hameed Khan:—"In view of the fact that the Government themselves compelled these officers to take leave preparatory to retirement, was it not due to them that they should be given their full salary for the period of their leave?"

Mr. E. Conran Smith:—"As is stated in the answer, the Government considered that it was necessary to give these officers only full average pay."

Mr. Abdul Hameed Khan:—"May I know whether it is not a fact that the Government of India have compelled the Government of Madras to give compensation to senior officers who are asked to retire as a measure of retrenchment?"

Mr. E. Conran Smith:—"The Government of India explained to the Government of Madras what their interpretation of the Civil Service Rules is. According to that interpretation, I believe, the compensation has to be given in such cases of retirement."

Mr. V. M. Ramaswami Mudaliyar:—"When these four Assistant Surgeons are asked to go on leave preparatory to retirement and then to join duty, may I know whether such a course does not shut out the junior assistant surgeons and that they become age-barred?"

Mr. E. Conran Smith:—"In the circumstances stated, the effect might be as the hon. Member suggests."

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[a] Printed as Appendix VI on page 113 infra.

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Mr. ABDUL HAMEED KHAN :—" In view of the order of the Government of India, when the Government compel their officers to retire, is it not necessary that they should be given full salary? "

Mr. E. CONRAN SMITH :—" I think I have already answered that question."

Mr. V. M. RAMASWAMI MUDALIYAR :—" Why should not the Government of Madras ask those persons who have put in 25 years of service and more to retire and employ juniors? "

Mr. E. CONRAN SMITH :—" I must ask for notice of the question."

Change of the designation of Lady Medical Officers into Women Medical Officers.

* 512 *Q.*—Diwan Bahadur A. APPADURAI PILLAI : Will the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the Government are aware of the recent change in the designation of Lady Medical Officers into Woman Assistant Surgeon, Woman Apothecary and Woman Sub-Assistant Surgeon, the term ' woman ' being substituted for the term ' Lady ' previously in use;

(*b*) if so, for what reason has this change been effected;

(*c*) whether similar changes were effected in other services, for instance, Educational;

(*d*) whether it is a fact that several lady doctors have made representations to their respective heads of departments; and

(*e*) whether there is any intention on the part of Government to restore the appellation hitherto in use?

A.—(*a*) & (*b*) Yes. The change in the designation follows the use of the term ' woman ' in the statutory rules relating to the service.

(*c*) The term ' woman ' and women's branch are used in the statutory rules relating to the Madras Educational Service also.

(*d*) No; only one complaint was received by the Surgeon-General from the woman apothecary attached to the Municipal Women and Children's Dispensary at Vaniyambadi.

(*e*) No. The Government see no objection whatever to the use of the terms ' woman assistant surgeon,' ' woman apothecary ' and ' woman sub-assistant surgeon.'

Diwan Bahadur A. APPADURAI PILLAI :—" May I know if the Government are aware that the term ' women ' is resented by the lady officers in Government service? "

Mr. E. CONRAN SMITH :—" No, Sir; the Government are not aware of it."

Mr. SAMI VENKATACHALAM CHETTI :—" Why is there the necessity to add the appellation of sex along with the designation? "

Mr. E. CONRAN SMITH :—" For administrative convenience."